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**SALEM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® UTAH SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Kirtlyn Bohling of Salem Hills High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year. Bohling is the first Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Salem Hills High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Bohling as Utah's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Bohling joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alicia Hollowell (2000-01, Fairfield HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Angela Tincher (2002-03, James River HS, Va.) and Kenzie Fowler (2006-07, Canyon del Oro HS, Ariz.).

The 5-foot-9 junior pitcher led the Skyhawks (25-3) to the Class 4A state championship this past season. Bohling posted a 24-2 record with a 0.35 ERA and 281 strikeouts in 158.2 innings pitched. She had 16 shutouts and two no-hitters. At the plate, Bohling batted .466 with two home runs, 33 RBI and a .589 slugging percentage. She hit a pair of postseason grand slams, including a walk-off homer in a 6-2 win over Box Elder.

Bohling has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at the Spanish Fork Public Library, on behalf of blood-donation drives and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with her church youth group.

"Kirtlyn Bohling is by far the best pitcher in the state," said Mandy Koford, head coach of Roy High. "She is confident, extremely talented and seems like a good leader on the field. To have that in the circle and then turn around and have her be a giant clutch hitter is simply relentless."

Bohling has made a verbal commitment to play softball on an athletic scholarship at Salt Lake Community College beginning in the fall of 2014.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Bohling joins recent Gatorade Utah Softball Players of the Year Jordan Theurer (2011-12, Bear River High School), MaCauley Flint (2010-11, Roy High School), Tori Almond (2009-10, Bingham), Shelbi Tyteca (2008-09, Viewmont), Tori Almond (2007-08, Bingham), and Cyd Allen (2006 - 07, Taylorsville) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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